

**Saint Peter
School News
April, 2024**

Dear Parents,

As we now prepare to celebrate the very holy time of Holy Week and grow in our relationship with God, let us take a little extra time simply being quiet and talking to God and journeying with Jesus through Holy Thursday, the sufferings of Good Friday, and the glory of Easter. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, speaks so beautifully about the discovery of the Risen Jesus and following the hope that Jesus gives us: "The night is drawing to a close and the first light of dawn is appearing upon the horizon as the women set out toward Jesus' tomb. They make their way forward, bewildered and dismayed, their hearts overwhelmed with grief at the death that took away their Beloved. Yet upon arriving and seeing the empty tomb, they turn around and retrace their steps. They leave the tomb behind and run to the disciples to proclaim a change of course: Jesus is risen and *awaits them in Galilee*. In their lives, those women experienced Easter as a Pasch, a *passage*. They pass from walking sorrowfully towards the tomb to running back with joy to the disciples to tell them not only that the Lord is risen, but also that they are to set out immediately to reach a destination, Galilee. There they will meet the Risen Lord. The rebirth of the disciples, the resurrection of their hearts, passes through Galilee. Let us enter into this journey of the disciples from the tomb to Galilee... At times, we may simply feel weary about our daily routine, tired of taking risks in a cold, hard world where only the clever and the strong seem to get ahead. At other times, we may feel helpless and discouraged before the power of evil, the conflicts that tear relationships apart, the attitudes of calculation and indifference that seem to prevail in society, the cancer of corruption – there is a great deal of it, the spread of injustice, the icy winds of war. Then too, we may have come face to face with death, because it robbed us of the presence of our loved ones or because we brushed up against it in illness or a serious setback. Then it is easy to yield to disillusionment, once the wellspring of hope has dried up. In these or similar situations – each of us knows our own plights, our paths come to a halt before a row of tombs, and we stand there, filled with sorrow and regret, alone and powerless, repeating the question, "Why?" That chain of "why"... The women at Easter, however, do not stand frozen before the tomb; rather, the Gospel tells us, "they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples". They bring the news that will change life and history forever: Christ is risen! At the same time, they remember to convey the Lord's summons to the disciples to go to Galilee, for there they will see him... Remember your own Galilee walk towards it, for it is the "place" where you

came to know Jesus personally, where he stopped being just another personage from a distant past, but a *living person*: not some distant God but the God who is at your side, who more than anyone else knows you and loves you... Dear brothers and sisters, let us follow Jesus to Galilee, encounter him and worship him there, where he is waiting for each of us. Let us revive the beauty of that moment when we realized that he is alive and we made him the Lord of our lives. Let us return to Galilee, the Galilee of our first love. Let each of us return to his or her own Galilee, to the place where we first encountered him. Let us rise to new life!"

Sacramental Meeting--Confirmation

There will be a parent meeting of the 7th grade students who will be receiving Confirmation next year on Monday, April 8 at 6:30pm in Church.



Gloria Singers

Saint Peter School was so proud to have 48 students from grades 4-8 participating in this wonderful event at Berks Catholic on Sunday, March 17. We are so grateful for our music teacher Mrs. McCann for organizing this choir and exposing our students to professional musicians and opportunity to perform with them.



SPS Recycling Club

Mrs. Kris Kerchner and Mrs. Tracy Vida have organized a group of students who are meeting weekly to implement recycling efforts and raise global awareness. We support the efforts of all members: Danna Peralta (4) Samantha Martinez (4) Maria Peñaloza (5) Missael Fernandez (4) Olivia Rodriguez (7)



Declamation Competition

We are in the midst of preparing our four orators for the famous Berks County Declamation Competition to be held at Berks Catholic on Friday, April 5 at 5:30pm. We wish the best to our competitors: Gabriela Rosas (8) Janellys Abreu (7) Isai Rivera (8) David Zavala (7)



Skating Party

We will have a Skating Party on Thursday, April 11 from 6:30pm- 8:30pm at Skate-away on Lancaster Avenue.



Spring Bingo

Come for an afternoon of food, fun, and Family Bingo from 11:00am to 3:00 in the Social Hall on Saturday, April 20.

